346 cathedral in Turku, built in the thirteenth century and surely one of the most beautiful churches in the north of Europe. The tradition of church building has been carried on, and some of the most modern examples of church architecture are to be found in Finland.

794 In addition to churches the congregations[1] build chapels and prayer houses in distant regions of the parishes, and also community centers, homes for the old and disabled, etc. On the other hand, there are no schools operated by the Church except for the training of its social workers, deacons and deasonesses and its Sunday school teachers. For the training of the deaconesses, the Church supports four hospitals 797 in different parts of the country. It also is active in missionary work in South Africa, China (until recently), Japan and Palestine, and has

[1] [i.e: Greek Catholic--Analyst]

795 Meeting with 31 members and the Ecclesiastic Board, consisting of six persons, mostly ministers and jurists, and handling economic as well as legal matters. The Ecclesiastic Board
794 is in charge of the Central Church Fund. The majority of the congregations[1] are self sufficient, as they have the right to tax their members and to use the income for their own needs: for the salaries of the ministers and other church personnel, for the upkeep of church buildings and cemeteries, and for social work. The wealthiest congregations, however, contribute a certain percentage of their income to the Central Fund to help those who are not able to meet their own needs. About one-sixth of the congregations, mostly located in the northern and eastern regions or in the western archipelago, need assistance from the Central Fund. Before World War II

[1] [of the Church of Finland -Analyst]

794 the congregations were landowners, but at the present time most of their landed property has been split into estates for the displaced Karelian refugees.

The country is divided into six dioceses, each with a bishop and a chapter. One of the dioceses, to which all Swedish-speaking congregations belong, is administered in that language. The bishop of the Diocese of Turku is at the same time the Archbishop of Finland. The President of the Republic appoints the bishops on the basis of elections held in the diocese. The dioceses again are divided into deaneries (57 in 1952), the latter into congregations (547). The congregations, like the dioceses, are actually geographical units mostly coinciding with the municipal communities. Thus the congregations are often extremely large both in area and in number of

794 members 4000 to 5000 on the average, and in the largest cities up to 50,000. The congregations elect their own church officials. Every congregation has a vicar and most of them, in addition, one or more chaplains and adjuncts, an organist, a songleader, and several social workers.

659 794 The State supports the six chapters[1] and pays the salary of the bishops and other diocese officials. Moreover, it contributes a certain amount of money to the Central Fund. In 1950 the total contributions of the State amounted to 22 million Finnish marks. The amount, however, is insignificant compared to the enormous savings to the State by the Church which, without compensation, takes care of the registration and book-keeping of the 96 per cent of the population which it counts as its members. The

[1] [of the Church of Finland--Analyst]

733 treatments, are after repeated warnings and investigation placed in the proper institutions. In 1947 welfare measure were taken in regard to 5921 chronic drunkards, 5330 of whom were men and 591 women. Altogether 816 received treatment in institutions.

747 Voluntary relief work is very important. The
794 Church is represented in different fields of social welfare through various organizations. Its central organ is the Home Mission Society of the Finnish Church, which maintains, among others, training institutes for deaconesses; a training college for matrons of children's homes, a home for epileptics and a home for imbecilic children. Another welfare organization in the Church is the Finnish Seamen's Mission, which does relief work on a large scale among Finnish sailors and emigrants in foreign countries. In

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[744] addition, the Church maintains City Mission Societies in large towns, and Christian Social Work Centers among the workers, e. g. in lumber camps in the North.

The Finnish Red Cross does especially valuable work for the benefit of the war invalids and their families, and pioneer work for child welfare has been carried on by General Mannerheim's Child Welfare League. The League of Social Democratic Women Workers maintains maternity homes for unwed mothers and holiday hostels for mothers and children. In addition, there are several societies founded for the care of disabled persons, such as the Friends of the Blind, the Society for Aid of Deaf Mutes, and the Foundation for Schools for Cripples, which maintains schools and homes and organizes employment for the disabled.